

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- 1-4. (Cancelled).
5. (Currently Amended) A method for assembling an integrated circuit package, comprising:
applying a thermal epoxy to a top surface of an integrated circuit;
placing a thermal element adjacent to the thermal epoxy; ~~and~~,
curing the thermal epoxy with energy at a microwave frequency; and
applying an encapsulant differing in composition from the thermal epoxy after curing of
the thermal epoxy.
6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, further comprising mounting the integrated circuit to a substrate.
7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, further comprising attaching a solder ball to the substrate.
8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6~~5~~, ~~further comprising wherein the~~
applying of the encapsulant comprises molding an~~the~~ encapsulant onto the substrate and the integrated circuit.
9. (Currently Amended) A method for assembling an integrated circuit package, comprising:
applying ~~an~~ thermal epoxy to a thermal element, the thermal epoxy being an epoxy resin
contain a thermally conductive filler;
placing the thermal epoxy and the thermal element onto a top surface of an integrated circuit; ~~and~~,

curing the thermal epoxy with energy at a microwave frequency; and
applying an encapsulant after curing of the thermal epoxy, the encapsulant differing in
composition from the thermal epoxy and forming the integrated circuit package.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, further comprising mounting the integrated circuit to a substrate.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, further comprising attaching a solder ball to the substrate.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 109, wherein the applying of the encapsulant further comprises molding an the encapsulant onto the substrate and the integrated circuit.

13. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein said thermal element is a heat spreader.

14. (Cancelled).

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~14~~5, wherein said thermally conductive filler includes carbon particles.

16. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein said placing of said thermal element includes attaching said thermal element to said epoxy.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 5, wherein said curing of the epoxy includes

selecting the microwave frequency to cure the thermal epoxy without damaging the integrated circuit or heating other components within the integrated circuit package; and

generating energy at the microwave frequency by a microwave generator directed toward the thermal epoxy.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, wherein prior to applying said thermal epoxy to the thermal element, the method further comprises providing a thermally conductive filler to a resin to form said epoxy.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9 further comprising baking a substrate into which the integrated circuit is to be mounted before curing the thermal epoxy.

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, wherein said curing of the thermal epoxy includes

selecting the microwave frequency to cure the epoxy without damaging the integrated circuit or heating other components within the integrated circuit package; and

generating energy at the microwave frequency by a microwave generator directed toward the thermal epoxy.

21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6, wherein prior to curing the thermal epoxy, the method further comprising baking a substrate onto which the integrated circuit is to be mounted.

22. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

applying an thermal epoxy to a thermal element;

mounting the thermal element on a top surface of an integrated circuit placed in an integrated circuit package mounted on a substrate, the thermal epoxy interposed between the thermal element and the integrated circuit; and

baking the substrate along with the integrated circuit package, the thermal element and the thermal epoxy;

curing the thermal epoxy by radiating energy at a microwave frequency toward the thermal epoxy to cure the thermal epoxy without damaging the integrated circuit or heating other components of the integrated circuit package.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, wherein the epoxy is a thermal conductive filler with carbon particles.